

Suspect Tasered during alcohol-related arrest by police last Saturday

SCOTT STEWART
EDITOR IN CHIEF

According to the campus crime log, Omaha police officers Tasered an individual during an arrest at University Village last Saturday, Sept. 29.

Three suspects – two non-university affiliated visitors and a student – were arrested around 4 a.m. last Saturday in an incident involving alcohol and accusations of harassment, according to the crime log.

All three subjects were cited for minor in possession of alcohol, and two of the subjects were also cited for disorderly conduct. One was taken to jail, and the other two were released, according to the crime log.

Four other alcohol-related incidents took place at University Village on the evening of Sept. 28 and early morning of Sept. 29. In total, at least 24 subjects – including at least 11 students – were involved in alcohol-related incidents between the hours of 11 p.m. and 4:05 a.m., according to the crime log.

Campus Security officials declined to comment Friday afternoon about the Taser incident. The *Gateway* has filed a request for incident reports with Paul Kosel, assistance manager of Campus Security, who was unavailable

for comment.

The Omaha police report was unavailable Saturday afternoon, but the Public Information Office did confirm the use of a Taser in the incident.

In an interview Friday afternoon, Police Sgt. Teresa Negron said that, in a situation with disorderly conduct, use of a Taser is not uncommon.

"The Taser is used in situations where someone is not following the commands of the officer," Negron said. "If the officer provides commands to people, if they don't respond to commands, the Taser can be used."

The use of Tasers on college campuses has received national media coverage the past few weeks after University of Florida student Andrew Meyer was arrested on Sept. 17 after disrupting a question-and-answer session with Massachusetts senator John Kerry.

It could not be confirmed by press time whether the individual Tasered at University Village last Saturday was a student, nor what the circumstances were surrounding the incident.

The *Gateway* will run more about this incident as documents are made available.

News Editor Taylor Muller contributed to this report.

Chancellor addresses health care costs by improving university employee wellness

TAYLOR MULLER
NEWS EDITOR

In a move to reduce rising health care costs, UNO Chancellor John Christensen addressed the university's employees, advising them to utilize available university health services.

In a letter released on the university Web site, Christensen said that there would be several options for employees to take personal responsibility for their health, including reduced cost blood work through Student Health Services, the UNO Health Fair and an online health appraisal.

"It is my wish that all UNO employees ... begin taking a few, small steps each week to improve their own well being. Do it for yourself, do it for your family, do it for UNO! Be a healthy Mav!" Christensen said.

The issue of rising health care costs is very real and on the horizon for the university, said Dave Daniels, assistant director for fitness/wellness.

"What we're trying to do is get everybody at least aware of their own health and wellness, from a personal standpoint, but also from a larger standpoint of the university and university system," said Daniels. "We're trying to bring down the health care costs so the university system doesn't go broke."

While the bill have not been bank-breaking so far, Daniels said health care costs would be a big issue for the university in the future.

"It's always an issue, the last couple years we've dodged a little bit of a bullet," said Daniels. "It hasn't gone up quite as much, but it's still a trend, probably only going to get worse. We

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photos by Bill Wendt

Mavs outrun Coyotes, Roadrunners

Forward Ali Portell kicks the ball past a South Dakota defender during UNO's 2-0 defeat of conference rivals South Dakota Sunday. The Mavs also defeated last year's national champions, Metro State, 2-0 on Friday. UNO improved its record to 6-5 this season and faces more conference challenges this weekend.

See pg. 6 for more soccer coverage.

Arabic language course offered, well received by internationally interested UNO students

NICOLE HIGGINBOTHAM
CONTRIBUTOR

Spanish, German, Japanese, Mandarin Chinese, Italian and Russian language classes are all currently offered by UNO. However, this semester globally minded students were able to add another: Arabic.

Thanks to funding assistance provided by the Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Program, UNO began offering its first Arabic language class this fall semester. The class, taught by Hussam Atef, is an introductory class for Arabic beginners.

The FLTA Program is used to promote cultural diversity on campuses nationwide. The program helps universities recruit professors that are fluent in specific languages to teach their native languages and represent their countries.

These professors may also engage in extracurricular activities or advise student organizations.

Atef received the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship, which entitled him to free room and board, a monthly stipend and tuition waiver for any work that is required for their occupation. The scholarship lasts up to a year and is non-renewable.

Dean of International Studies Tom Gouttierre said Atef was chosen because, "He was the one who most fit our needs.

He's an academically qualified individual."

Hussam currently has a bachelor's degree in English language and literature. Before receiving the Fulbright scholarship, he had been a teacher of English in Jordan. Currently, while teaching the Arabic course, Atef is taking advantage of the Master of Arts in Language teaching program offered by the Department of Foreign Languages in conjunction with faculty members from the College of Education.

The new course was well received by students, with its 25 spots filling up quickly.

"It's been very successful. We've had a waiting list of students trying to get into the class," Gouttierre said. Students so far have had a positive outlook on the class and think it will benefit both the university and its students.

Jessica Hohman, who works in the International Studies office, said, "I think this is an amazing chance and, if I had thought about it, I would have dropped my Spanish."

Comfort Simms, a student currently enrolled in the class, said, "The class is very interesting. It's going to help me in so many ways."

There is already a wait list for next semester; students interested in taking the class should contact either their adviser or the International Studies department.

News You Can Use

COMPILED BY
TAYLOR MULLER
NEWS EDITOR

UNO chancellor installation this afternoon

John Christensen will be officially installed as the chancellor of UNO during a ceremony at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Strauss Performing Arts Center. NU President James B. Milliken will preside over the event, which is open to the public.

"John Christensen is exactly the right leader for UNO," Milliken said. "As the first Omahan and UNO graduate to serve as Chancellor, he brings a connection with and love for both community and campus. More importantly, he is focused on the future of this remarkable institution and will provide strong and able leadership."

The event is intended to bring together the university and the public, creating an opportunity for reflection and celebration of the institution and of higher education.

The theme for the event, "Living the Future; Understanding the Past," is based on a quotation from Danish philosopher and theologian Soren Kierkegaard. The philosopher said, "Life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forwards."

Omaha Mayor Mike Fahey, NU Board of Regents Chairman Chuck Wilson, UNO Student Regent Alex Williams, UNO Professor Scott Tarry, staff member Jennifer Forbes-Baily and alumna Deb McLarney are among those speaking at the event.

The installation ceremony will begin with a procession of representatives from Nebraska's public and private colleges and universities and faculty in academic regalia and will feature musical performances by UNO faculty and students.

Exercise physiology lab to offer cholesterol screening

UNO faculty, staff and students will have a chance today to check their cholesterol with \$20 cholesterol screenings from the School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation Exercise Physiology Lab. The screenings will be held in the Exercise Physiology Lab, 103 HPER Building, from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 554-3221.

UNO Fall Convocation set for Oct. 10

The 2007 Fall Convocation will be held tomorrow. The event will be held in the Strauss Performing Arts Center Recital Hall at 10 a.m.

Chancellor John Christensen will deliver his state-of-the-university address and the public, faculty, staff and students are all invited to attend. The event will be followed by a reception in the Milo Bail Student Center Ballroom.

For more information, call 554-3502.

Student lunch and learn about overcoming speech anxiety Oct. 11

The UNO Speech Center will be sponsoring a free student workshop Thursday titled "Banish Those Butterflies: Overcoming Speech Anxiety."

The event will take place in the Milo Bail Student Center Gallery Room. Free pizza and pop will be provided.

Students who attend will learn more about recognizing the source of their nervous habits, strategies to reduce speech anxiety and enhancing their self-confidence.

To register for the session, contact Marlina Davidson at the Speech Consulting Center at either 554-3201 or unospeechcenter@mail.unomaha.edu. Space is limited, so students must register in advance.

History of first North American travels discussed at UNO

Beth Ritter, an associate professor with the Department of Sociology and director of Native American Studies at UNO, will lead a discussion about the first Spanish expeditions across the new continent, Oct. 12 in the Council Room of the Milo Bail Student Center.

Beginning at noon, the discussion will focus on Paul Schneider's 2006 book, "Brutal Journey: The Epic Story of the First Crossing of North America."

"Charla" to feature border-crossing stories

The Office of Latino/Latin American Studies will continue its "Charla Series" with a look at immigrant crossings from both a social and literary perspective. Set for this Friday in the Milo Bail Student Center Nebraska Room, the presentation will begin at 11:30 a.m.

Co-sponsored by UNO's Department of English and Cultural Awareness Programs, the presentation will feature Marta Caminero-Santangelo, associate professor of English and founder of Latino Studies at the University of Kansas. Minero-Santangelo will deliver a presentation titled, "True Stories of 'Illegal' Border Crossings: Narrating the Non-Nation."

"Professor Caminero-Santangelo is a nationally recognized, Cuban-American scholar who, following on the Latin American literary tradition of 'testimonios,' is doing fascinating work on how different audiences construct their own narratives about 'illegal' border crossings and the consequences of those narratives for our cultural soul and migrant communities specifically," said Lourdes Gouveia, director of OLLAS and professor of sociology.

Partial funding provided by OLLAS/U.S. Department of Education. Visit unomaha.edu/ollas/ for more information.

Crime Log

COMPILED BY
SCOTT STEWART
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Tuesday, Sept. 25

2:22 a.m. A Campus Security officer witnessed a student driving erratically on campus. After speaking with the student, it was determined he was driving under the influence. The student was referred for disciplinary action.

Friday, Sept. 28

10:05 p.m. Student reported the theft of personal property from Milo Bail Student Center. Incident occurred between 9:50 p.m. and 10 p.m.

11:40 p.m. While on patrol of University Village, Campus Security officers found three minors in possession of alcohol at a University Village suite. The alcohol had already been consumed. The residents were referred for disciplinary actions.

Saturday, Sept. 29

12:45 a.m. While on patrol of University Village, a Campus Security officer observed a student in possession of an alcoholic beverage and discovered a party in progress. The student's alcoholic drink was confiscated, and the student was referred for disciplinary action. Officers proceeded to the location of the party and identified two student residents and six visitors as being minors and in possession of alcohol. The students were referred for disciplinary action.

2 a.m. While on patrol of University Village, a Campus Security officer observed unusual behavior. Further investigation found four students and one visitor were in possession of alcoholic beverages. The alcohol was confiscated, and the students were referred for disciplinary actions.

2:30 a.m. While on patrol of University Village, a Campus Security officer observed consumption of alcoholic beverages. Two students and one visitor were involved. The alcoholic beverages were confiscated. The students were referred for disciplinary action.

3 a.m. While on patrol of University Village, a Campus Security officer learned of the fraudulent use of identification to procure alcohol. Further

investigation disclosed the suspect was in possession of stolen university property. The student was referred for disciplinary action. The property was returned.

4:05 a.m. While on patrol of University Village, a Campus Security officer observed two suspects crying. Further investigation led to the discovery of alcoholic beverages. Questioning individuals in the area lead to accusations of harassment and escalation of the incident, resulting in a request for police assistance. Upon arrival, Omaha police arrested three individuals, one of whom was Tasered. Suspect one was not affiliated and was arrested for disorderly conduct, minor in possession and booked into jail. Suspect two was affiliated and was arrested for disorderly conduct and minor in possession and released. Suspect three was not affiliated and was arrested for minor in possession then released on the condition they leave campus.

Monday, Oct. 1

1:30 p.m. Omaha police notified Campus Security of the recovery of a stolen vehicle belonging to a student at Eppley Airfield. The student reported being unaware of the theft. The student reported the location of the theft as Lot 9 and the time of occurrence as being between 11:30 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 30, and 8 a.m., Monday, Oct. 1.

1:40 p.m. A student reported the theft of their vehicle from First Christian Church. The incident occurred between 8:55 a.m. and 12 p.m.

9:30 p.m. Campus Security officers responded to University Village regarding a complaint about marijuana. Investigation resulted in a request for an Omaha police response. The Omaha police response resulted in the booking arrest of two students for possession of marijuana, possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Tuesday, Oct. 2

7:50 a.m. A student reported the theft of personal property from Milo Bail Student Center Food Court. Incident occurred between 12 p.m. and 1 p.m., Monday, Oct. 1.

7:44 p.m. A visitor reported the theft of personal property from their vehicle. The incident occurred


between 5 p.m. and 6:15 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 3

8:20 p.m. A student reported the theft of personal property from the Criss Library. Incident occurred between 9:30 a.m. and 10 p.m. [sic].

Thursday, Oct. 4

2 p.m. Visitor reported theft of personal property from a trailer parked in Lot 20 [sic]. Incident occurred between 8 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 3, and 7 a.m., Thursday, Oct. 4.



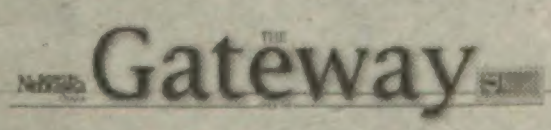
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Traveling 'buseum' invites campus to remember, honor Midwestern WWII prisoners of war

EUGENE KIM
STAFF WRITER

The UNO Criss Library invited a traveling World War II museum to compliment their on-going original World War II poster exhibit last Friday.

Based in St. Paul, Minn., the Traces Museum is devoted to the history of the second world war.

"The museum is made up of 24 exhibits. The bus is one of those exhibits, and this is devoted to the Midwest POW experience," said Irving Kellman, the tour guide and bus driver.

Parked outside the Criss Library, the old school bus converted into a museum was a chance for students, faculty and staff alike to step into a slice of history.

Kellman calculated that by the end of their current tour of the Midwest, the "buseum" will have visited 800 towns in 13 states over the last

three years, with between 80,00 and 85,000 people visiting the exhibit.

"Behind Barbed Wire: Midwest POWs in Nazi Germany," the theme of the exhibit, was chosen to reflect "what it was like, what their experiences were, what they did [in the concentration camp]. Each panel is dedicated to a different aspect of their daily lives," said Kellman.

While the museum's focus is on history, its message is forward-looking.

"The real thought behind this though was, 'Let's not have this happen again.' What these men went through was horrendous," said Kellman. "What World War II was, was horrendous. We should learn the lessons of war and not do it again, but every generation since then has had its war."

Traces has attracted respect and recognition from people all over the country, including recently deceased best-selling author and former prisoner

of war Kurt Vonnegut. Vonnegut not only donated money, but also gave Traces free, unrestricted use of *Slaughterhouse Five*, his account of the firebombing of Dresden.

Criss Library Dean Steve Shorb said the traveling exhibit was "a good way to get people thinking about our past, and what was happening at that time in our country's past."

Shorb said the opportunity just seemed to present itself.

"We felt it was a nice tie in ... with our World War II poster exhibit on display, and with Ken Burns' PBS World War II Special going on," said Shorb.

Though the Traces exhibit was only on campus for one day, the library's "Homeland Morale to Homeland Security: Original WWII Posters" exhibit will remain on display through Sunday, Nov. 18.

N.J. college plans total campus smoking ban

BY PATRICIA ALEX
THE RECORD

BERGEN COUNTY, N.J. (MCT) — Bergen Community College this week is expected to vote to ban smoking on its entire 167-acre campus in Paramus.

The school would join at least 65 others nationwide in a trend that pushes smokers to the periphery of campus life. In New Jersey, community colleges in Morris, Burlington and Somerset counties also have banned smoking campus-wide.

The movement to ban even outdoor smoking has been growing across the country, with colleges, hospitals and even some cities in the vanguard.

"I'm an asthmatic and a former Lung Association president, and I can't wait to ban it," said G. Jeremiah Ryan, Bergen Community's new president. "It's a public-health issue."

It is expected that Bergen Community's board of trustees will approve the ban on Wednesday. It would go into effect in January.

The president of the faculty union, Peter Helff, said he agrees that smokers should be relegated to areas away from the general public. But a total ban is both "a mistake and unenforceable," he said.

"It's an overreaction," said Helff, who is a pipe smoker. "And it will be a severe hardship on some of the people I represent."

Other colleges and universities in New Jersey ban smoking in academic buildings and residence halls, and many require a smoke-free buffer outside buildings. But, so far, campus-wide bans have been limited to the community colleges, which are commuter schools.

The concept of a campus-wide ban began at a community college in

Missouri in 2003 and accelerated after the release in 2006 of the latest Surgeon General's Report detailing the harmful effects of secondhand smoke and the highly addictive nature of tobacco use, said Bronson Frick of the Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights.

"For an educational institution, it's the only sensible policy," Ryan said of Bergen Community. He had no firm estimate of the number of smokers on campus, but nationally about 30 percent of college students smoke.

Bergen Community has more than 15,000 students and about 1,000 staff members. Ryan said the college will offer smoking cessation programs beginning in October. "We're hoping most folks will quit before the ban begins," he said.

Across the country, most of the campus-wide bans are at smaller and commuter schools. Efforts have floundered to enact such policies at some larger schools.

Opponents say smoking bans could create safety issues at residential schools, forcing students off campus.

"It can put the student in a dangerous situation," said Michael McFadden, a regional smokers' rights advocate. He said the bans amount to social engineering that is more Orwellian than American.

But the movement is picking up steam, said Frick, of the national nonsmokers group. The University of Iowa is considering a total ban by 2009. The 39,000-student main campus at Purdue University is now smoke-free, thanks to a ban on all public smoking in West Lafayette, Ind., where it is located.

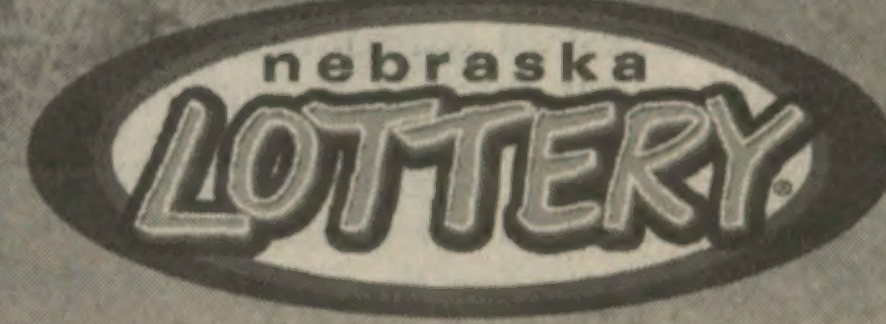
As at Bergen Community, most

See **SMOKING**: Page 8

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photo by Tariq Zehawi / The Record / MCT

Francisco Altamirano, 27, right, of Cliffside Park, lights up a cigarette next to a no smoking sign as Alexandra Budde, 18, of River Edge, holds onto her lit cigarette, September 19, 2007, in Paramus, N.J.

Features

October 9, 2007 | features@unogateway.com

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Patrick Doty | Features Editor

Invisible Children's Schools for Schools emerges on campus to raise awareness of Ugandan plight

ADRIENNE FASSE
CONTRIBUTOR

Two years ago, Michelle Hoeft's roommate asked her to watch a documentary with her. Hoeft agreed, never knowing what a huge impact the film would have on her life.

The documentary, *Invisible Children*, showcased the story of children living in Northern Uganda, a country that has been involved in a 20-year-long civil war. Hoeft, 20, said she was shocked by the atrocities occurring in the country through its use of child soldiers.

"I couldn't believe what was going on over there," she said. "I knew I had to do something to help."

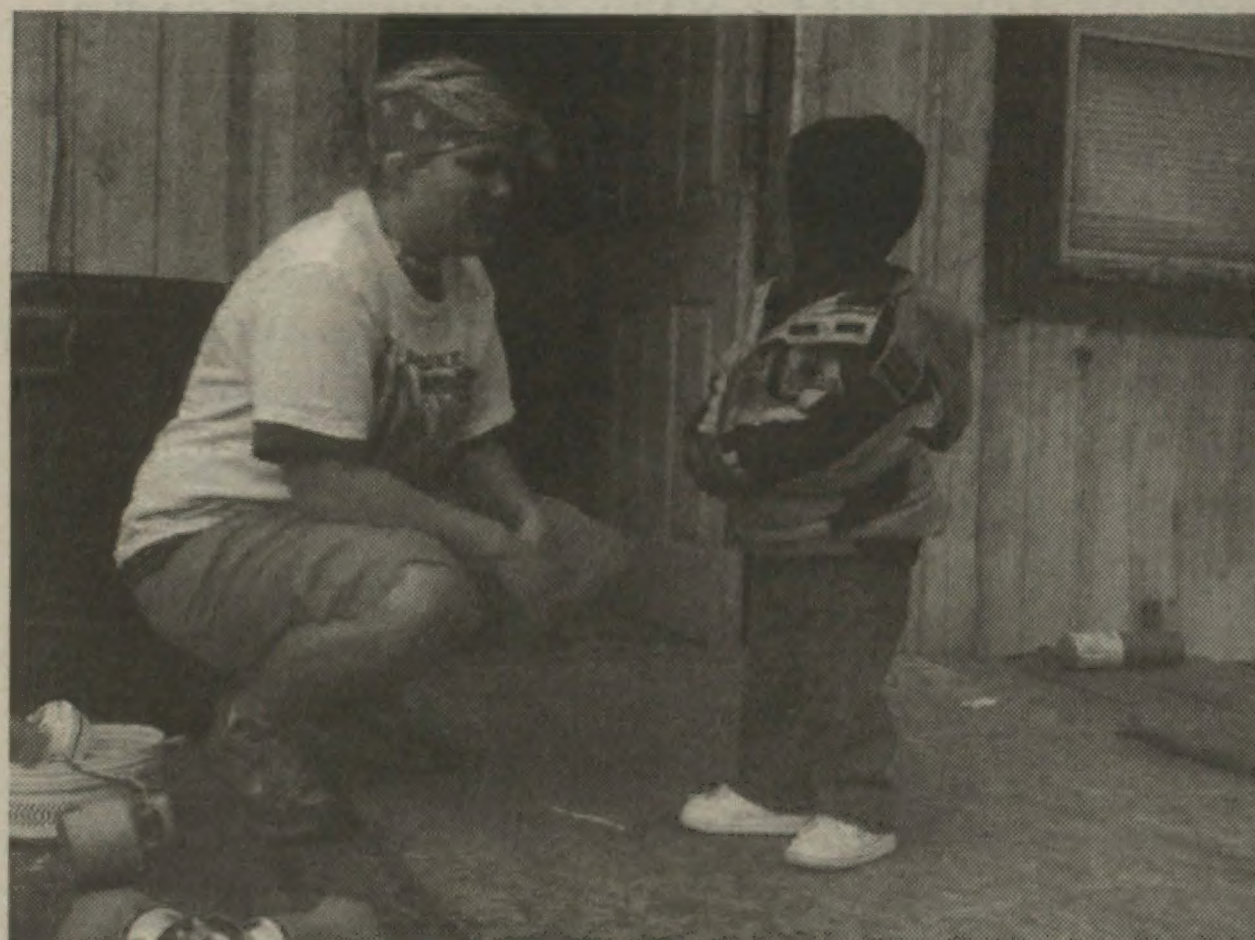
Hoeft, who was attending Briar Cliff University at the time, immediately contacted Invisible Children, Inc., the non-profit organization that was created in 2004 after a huge national response to the film.

The goals of the organization include promoting awareness of the situation in Northern Uganda, along with using various fundraising efforts to promote change overseas, according to its Web site, invisiblechildren.com.

Now attending UNO, Hoeft and other students are trying to grow on-campus interest of a program created by Invisible Children, Inc., called Schools for Schools.

The goal of this program is for schools around the U.S. to raise money and awareness for the poor conditions of war-torn schools in Northern Uganda. It challenges American schools to come up with creative fundraising ideas to bring in money for the program.

An informational meeting about Schools for Schools was held Wednesday at the Milo Bail Student



courtesy

Michelle Hoeft has also helped with other causes, such as Hurricane Katrina relief, shown above.

Center.

At the meeting, representatives from Invisible Children presented a video highlighting one boy's struggle to better himself amongst the intense poverty in Northern Uganda.

"We believe that every child, no matter where they live, deserves an education," said Andi Giovinazzo, a student from South Florida University who is traveling nationwide to promote Invisible Children, Inc.

Giovinazzo said any money raised at UNO would go to Gulu Senior Secondary School, where 1,700 students attend with only eight classrooms available.

Hoeft and other students are planning to create a Schools-for-Schools club in order to work together to formulate ideas, since Hoeft has much experience in aiding the organization's cause.

While at Briar Cliff, Hoeft participated in Global

Night Commute, an event in which more than 86,000 Americans slept in streets to bring attention to the plight of children in Northern Uganda.

The event aimed to mimic the nightly trek children in Uganda make out of fear of being abducted by the Lord's Resistance Army, the rebel group in Northern Uganda, to be forced to fight.

"It was such an awesome experience to see everyone coming together to shed light on such a serious issue," Hoeft said.

This past April, Hoeft participated in another event put on by Invisible Children called "Displace Me." During this event, people from all over the United States left their homes and congregated in 15 major cities.

"We wanted to highlight the fact that thousands of Ugandans have been forced out of their homes into camps in order to escape the LRA," Hoeft said.

At "Displace Me," Hoeft met several students from the African American Organization at UNO. She knew she would be transferring to UNO this fall and discussed bringing the Invisible Children cause to the campus with the members of organization.

Everyone there decided it was time for UNO to get involved, Hoeft said. Now she and other students have been working hard to bring Invisible Children's newest program to UNO's campus.

Last spring semester, Schools for Schools raised \$1.2 million nationally to go toward Northern Ugandan schools.

"We want to help bring the children out of the camps and into schools where they will have an opportunity to learn and grow," Hoeft said.

"This is a big commitment and we want to have a lot of people on board," Hoeft said. "I am ready to see how students at UNO can help this great cause."

Playing it safe



Anna Schmidt, 3, emerges from a simulated smoke-filled room in a fire safety trailer manned by firefighters.

Celebrities, prizes, Moonwalks and safety demonstrations were a few of the activities at the Family Safety Day, a free event held in Lot 9 located behind Scott Residence Hall. The event - sponsored by Children's Hospital, the National Safety Council and Kohl's - took place from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday.



With her father as support, 2-year-old Elliott Zweerink gives her best jumps in one of the Moonwalks.



As her sisters keep on jumping, 7-year-old Paras Davis takes a break from the activities.

photos and text by Patrick Doty

Sports

Jason Sibson | Sports Editor

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sports@unogateway.com | October 9, 2007

UNO volleyball suffers road losses to two top ten teams, falls to 9-8, 2-4 in conference play

KEVIN CLEMENS
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The UNO volleyball players entered a North Central Conference double-header weekend excited to show their talent and potential against some of the best teams in the country. The first match plotted the Mavericks against the College Sports Television/American Volleyball Coaches Association Division II Top 25 poll's No.3 team in the country, Minnesota Duluth, Friday night at the Sapp Fieldhouse.

The Mavericks fought hard against the best team in the NCC, taking the match to five games. The Mavs won the first game of the match, which marked the first game that Minnesota Duluth had lost since Sept. 14, when UNO faced the Bulldogs in Duluth and took them to four games. Ultimately, the Mavericks lost this contest 3-2 (24-30, 30-15, 30-18, 29-31, 15-8). Even though the Mavs lost, this toe-to-toe battle proved that they have the ability to play with any team in the country.

Senior setter Katie Agnew, who had been named the NCC setter of the week one-week prior, was the MVP of the game in the losing effort. She narrowly missed

recording a triple-double with 37 assists, 15 digs, and nine kills on a .533 hitting percentage.

The two-headed monster, Carlie Christensen and Ellen Thommes, also came to fight Friday night. Each middle-blocker recorded 13 kills for the Mavericks

against the Bulldogs. Christensen also added a game-high seven total blocks. Nicole McLeod contributed a double-double for the Mavs with 10 kills and 14 digs.

After a tough loss to the Minnesota-Duluth Bulldogs (18-1, 5-0), the Mavericks moved on to play No. 10 Augustana the following day. The Mavericks were given their second straight loss on Saturday, suffering a sweep in Sioux Falls, SD at the hands of the Augustana Vikings 3-0 (30-19, 31-29, 33-31).

UNO was again led in kills by Christensen, who recorded 14 in the game, and Thommes, who blasted 12 for the Mavericks.

"Both games we played well and aggressive, so I can't be upset with how we played," Christensen said after the 0-2 weekend. "We are just going to stay positive and look toward the next game. We know that we still have a lot more games to win and we know that we can beat anybody."

The Mavericks will certainly have a chance to prove their worth in the upcoming weeks. UNO has seven more conference games slated this season, including a rematch with Augustana in Omaha on Oct. 26. Their next game is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 13, when they will face North Dakota at 6 p.m. in the Sapp Fieldhouse.

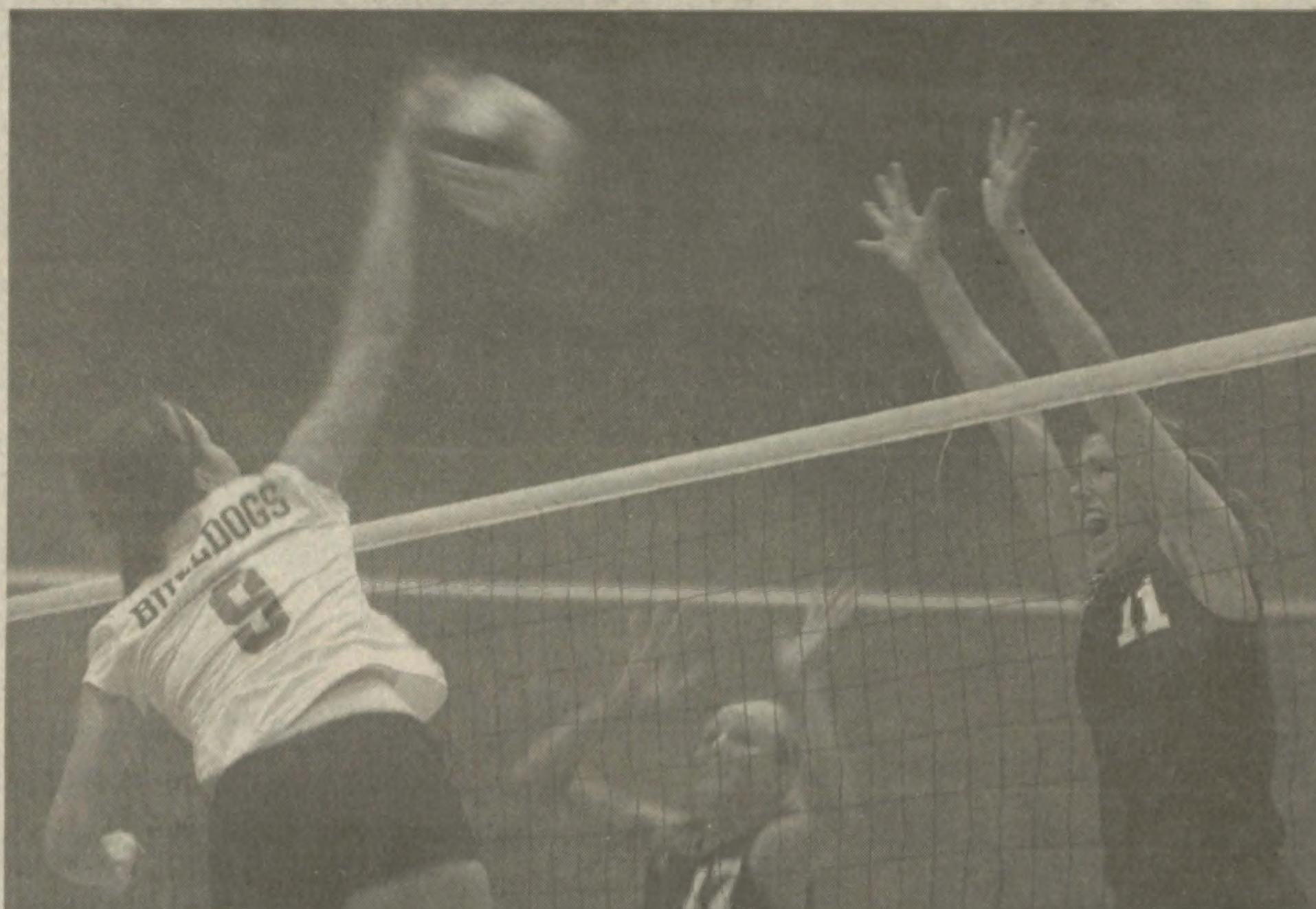


photo by Bill Wendt

Kelli Goeser (right) and Carlie Christensen (left) defend against a potential kill by Duluth's Sara Wyfells during Friday's game.

Gender questions in UNO athletics: Does Title IX equality have to mean fewer men's sports?

COMMENTARY BY
KEVIN CLEMENS
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

With women's sports outnumbering men's sports nine to five on campus, it might appear as though there is some sort of a gender bias within the UNO athletic department.

UNO fields the fewest male sports in the North Central Conference, competing in only five of the 10 sports available. This doesn't appear to make much sense in the overall scheme of things.

In actuality, UNO contributes roughly the same resources to both male and female sports. Certain parameters are met to keep spending on both men's and women's sports similar, and an equal number of opportunities to participate are assured by the athletic department.

The department also maintains this equality by supplying an equal number of scholarships to male and female sports.

The UNO football team is currently supporting 36 scholarship athletes and the hockey team supplies a total of 18 scholarships. Women's basketball and soccer supply the most scholarships for women's sports at a total of 10. The other women's sports account for the remaining women's scholarships.

During my research on this topic, I spoke with UNO Athletic Director David Miller. These were some of his comments on the subject:

"It is hard to achieve that equal gender balance. We may not field as many teams as others, but we want to make sure that we provide an equal level of funding for both men's and women's sports needed to be successful."

The equality in college sports is mandated Title IX (that's Roman numeral nine). According to the Web site www.titleix.info, the law states that "no person in the United States shall, on the basis of

sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance."

Title IX was created in 1972 and, since its induction into university athletics, has been quite a controversial issue. Although it was originally passed in the early 1970s, many athletic departments across the country did not make it an official policy until the 80s, when a large amount of gender discrimination suits took place against colleges and high schools.

Before 1972 only one in 27 collegiate women participated in sports, with very few college scholarships available to female athletes. In the last 30 years the amount of female athletes has increased by 400 percent and is continuing to rise.

"We want to extend as many opportunities to as many students as we can, but like any other athletic department across the country we have a limited number of resource dollars," Miller said.

Next year things will be quite different, as the UNO Mavericks will change conferences from the NCC to a larger conference, the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association. As part of changing conferences, UNO will field a men's tennis team next year.

But this doesn't really address the issue of gender equality so much as it does conference rules.

Should UNO develop more funding for additional men's sports? You can be the judge.

There are certainly plenty of athletes to fill additional athletic teams across the country. The business and legal implications of Title IX certainly have proved to stir up controversy in the past, and we shall see how it unfolds in the future.

As UNO grows and moves to a larger conference, perhaps there will be room to add additional athletic programs. Until that time, though, we can only hope for the growth and improvement of UNO athletics as it is.

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Mavericks shut out Metro State, South Dakota in possible season-saving weekend in Omaha

KEVIN CLEMENS
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Early morning October rains left UNO's soccer field soggy and wet for this weekend's match-ups, but that didn't stop the resurgent Mavericks from rolling over last year's National Champions. The Mavs defeated Metro State 2-0 on Friday and, in doing so, reasserted themselves as a threat on the national level.

UNO took a lead in the game at the 13:88-minute mark when Casey Bigsby scored on a pass from Dani McCawley. The Mavs preserved this early lead with stellar defensive play, holding Metro State to just two shots in the first half. UNO fired 10 shots of their own in the first half and dominated the action for most of the game.

Senior goalkeeper Ellen Peterson and the Maverick defense recorded their second shutout of the season Friday afternoon. Peterson blocked all six shots on goal produced by the visiting Roadrunners.

Brandie Beale then gave the Mavericks an insurance goal in the 83rd minute on an assist from teammate Amanda Iwansky, which sealed the upset for the Mavericks. The goal was Beale's third of the year.

UNO continued its big play over the weekend with a second consecutive shutout Sunday afternoon, defeating South Dakota 2-0. The Maverick defense, backed by Peterson, notched their third shutout of the season, limiting the visiting Coyotes to just six shots on

goal.

Bigsby carried on her electrifying play for the Mavericks against USD, finding the back of the net for the second time in as many games. The junior midfielder scored her second game-winning goal of the weekend, heading in a cross sent by McCawley at the 85:13-minute mark. It was her fifth goal of the year, which ties her for



photo by Bill Wendt

UNO's Kellyn Kramolisch races South Dakota's Katie Whithom for possession. The Mavericks defeated their North Central rival 2-0 Sunday.

the team lead and also marked her third game-winning goal of the season.

MaryClaire Murnan provided cushion with a goal late in the game to give the Mavericks the 2-0 victory.

After a slow start to the '07 season, conference play has turned things around for the resilient Mavs.

"Our team is just grinding our nose to the pavement and playing really hard," Bigsby said. "We need to pull off some more wins, especially with [more] conference games coming up."

Head Coach Don Klosterman was really pleased and excited about his team's play over the weekend.

"They really stepped up and played well on Friday and today, especially in the second half," Klosterman said. "This is as well as we have played all season long."

After the weekend Klosterman, who has been UNO's head coach for all nine of its seasons, made his expectations for the rest of the season very clear.

"Win the rest of the games. We are excited about it and look forward to the future," he said.

The Mavericks posted an impressive 4-1 home stand that catapulted them into second place in the NCC. They will take to the road again in the next two weekends to face four worthy conference opponents, and will have to continue producing timely scoring and lock-down defense in order to meet Klosterman's lofty goals.

Next week, UNO faces Augustana (6-5-1, 2-3) on Saturday at 1 p.m., then squares off against St. Cloud State (4-6-1, 2-4) on Sunday at 1 p.m.

I WANT

TEAM SPIRIT

GLORY

AND NOT TO SHOW UP IN FULL UNIFORM FOR A GAME THAT WAS CANCELLED THREE DAYS AGO.

4x4 Sand Volleyball

Mav-Rec
IM Sports

September 30th
Free Agents forfeit vs Sand Storm
The Michael Robbins vs Team Bonesaw forfeit
Dazed & Confused 2-0 vs Thunder 0-2

Penetrators forfeit vs ???
Building B 0-2 vs Jackass 2-0
Jackass 2 forfeit vs Aces
Dream Team forfeit vs C-Town
Hot Hillers forfeit vs The Kinetic Kangaroos
Jazzholes vs Safe Sets forfeit

7x7 Flag Football

September 25th
TD Ballers 33 vs Monday Morning QB 8
Fantastic Fraziers 12 vs Tuesday Night Lights 0
The Blumpkins 12 vs Lil Giants 6
Who Knows 32 vs Sexy Seven 15
Burn Squad 12 vs McLovin 25 forfeit illegal player
Silver Snakes 20 vs A Flag Football Team 21

September 26th
Gracelyn 20 vs Abusement Park 0
Pike A 39 vs Theta Chi 0
Sig Ep A 13 vs Lambda Chi 6
The PHD's bye
Pike Pledge 21 vs Toon Squad 22
Pike B 0 vs The Pain Train 36
Sig Ep B1 28 vs Sig Ep B2 12

September 27th
Chi Omega Cardinal 25 vs Chi Omega-Straw 0 Sigma Kappa 13 vs Alpha Xi Delta 12
Tigers 23 vs Zeta Tau Alpha 0

September 30th
Dazed & Confused 44 vs Athletic Supporters 9
Pink Zebras forfeit vs Steel Curtain forfeit
X-Factor forfeit vs Crazy Spoons
Pfeiffer 21 vs Shockers 31
The Raging Willys vs Da Bears forfeit
The Guardians forfeit vs Git-R-Done
El Chupacabras vs Marshmallow Matsys forfeit
Super Bad 35 vs Mustangs 0
The Firm 32 vs Thunder 0
The A-Team 0 vs Donkey Punchers 13
Respek vs Dunder Mifflin forfeit
Hunters vs Appalachian state forfeit
Steel Curtain 36 vs No Mercy 12

3x3 Basketball

October 1st
Flying She-Squirrels 1-2 vs Breathless 2-1
Flyin' Flying She-Squirrels 2-0 vs Ballaz 0-2 Ballaz 0-2 vs Breathless 2-0
CONGRATULATIONS Flying She-Squirrels winning womens 3x3 basketball league

Game Ova 2-0 vs Super Bad 0-2 The Wolfpack 1-2 vs Baracudas 2-1
The Unknown 1-2 vs Amigos con Queso 2-1 Thunder 2-0 vs Sig Ep 0-2
The Game Ova 2-0 vs Baracudas 0-2
Amigos Con Queso 0-2 vs The Wolfpack 2-0
Party Animals 2-0 vs The Unknown 0-2
Part Super Bad 0-2 vs Thunder 2-0
The Sig Ep 2-1 vs The Squad 1-2 Party Animals 2-0 vs The Squad 0-2

7x7 Soccer

September 26th
Sig Ep B forfeit vs Lambda Chi
Harvesters 7 vs Hooligans 3
Sig Ep A 4 vs Pike A 1
Saudi Arabia 4 vs Sideline Elephants 5
Oosicks 4 vs Free Agents 3
Super Sonic Legends-bye

September 27th
SSWO 5 vs Alpha Xi Delta 2
Sigma Kappa 5 vs Chi Omega 1

4x4 Wii Bowling

October 1st
Wii Rock 0-2 vs Wii are the Champions 2-0 Rock N' Bowlers vs Pink Zebras forfeit

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From **SMOKING:** Page 3

of the campus bans are a matter of school policy rather than local law. Under Bergen's plan, violators would be warned to stop and could face "disciplinary action" or removal from campus.

Those sanctions are part of the school's current policy, which prohibits smoking inside and within 50 feet of school buildings. That policy is not always enforced, despite prominent signs. On a recent sunny afternoon, a pair of students sat smoking on a bench – right under a "No Smoking" sign.

"A lot of kids go through stress at school; they need to come out and have a smoke," said Rommie Shihaeh, who was sharing a cigarette with a friend, Nazir Uddin. The students, both from Elmwood Park, said smokers at least need a designated area – even if it is far from the buildings.

Ryan vowed "diligent and consistent" enforcement of the new policy, but said there will be some flexibility involved as well. "We don't want to be a police state," he said. The policy would be enforced "from the front gate to the back gate, but we're not going to harass people smoking in their cars," he said.

At the County College of Morris, the policy calls for a series of fines for violators: \$25 for the first offense, \$50 for the second and \$75 for the third. President Edward Yaw said some fines have been levied but, for the most part, students and staff have embraced the policy voluntarily. He said the ban was well publicized in the semester prior to its enforcement and that students and staff were offered help in quitting smoking.

"It's been quite successful," he said. "We had special concerns for employees [who smoke] on how to help them get through a seven-hour day."

Comments?
Concerns?
Complaints?

Write the editor at
editor@unogateway.com

Arts & Leisure

Charley Reed | Arts & Leisure

Page 7

arts@unogateway.com | October 9, 2007

The Gateway's guide to Omaha's most haunted houses

Mystery Manor

REVIEW BY
MICHELLE BISHOP
PHOTO EDITOR

Whether or not you believe in ghosts, the staff at Mystery Manor does a fine job of terrifying those brave enough to wind through their claustrophobic halls.

What sets the Manor apart from other haunted houses is the dedication of the performers. While only volunteers, these actors take their job seriously and must audition for their parts.

"We have some actors that have been here for all 24 years," said Mark Sealy, business manager for the Manor.

Professional makeup artists work with the actors hours before opening to make sure each zombie, clown and ghoul will haunt your dreams later that night.

Also, adding to the terror this year are three new additions to the house. First is "The Squeezer," a room where both sides of the wall inflate with airbags forcing you to fight your way out. Next up is a quivering alien birthing experience and finishing off the macabre journey is a gruesome butcher shop featuring slabs of meat and bloody organs.

"The clown room is hard hitting, so is the alien birthing," Sealy said. "The last ten minutes of the house are pretty intense; we took it up a notch for sure."

But the classic parts of the Manor still remain too, including the "Slide of Doom," a three-story metal slide. But before escaping down the slide, guests must survive the hidden passageways, evil scientists and the live snakes and rats accompanying the actors throughout the Manor.

Located at 716 N. 18th St., the Manor opens nightly at 7 p.m. and is closed Mondays and Tuesdays until Oct. 22. Admission is \$10. Students who show their ID receive a dollar off tickets Sunday through Thursday.



photo by Michelle Bishop

An evil butcher complete with a collection of slabs of meat and assorted body parts is one of the new additions to Mystery Manor this year.

photo by Michelle Bishop

Mystery Manor, located in downtown, has been a part of Omaha's Halloween scene for 24 years.

Screamers

REVIEW BY
CHARLEY REED
A&L EDITOR

Located at the south-east corner of 72nd and L streets in the former Rod Kush plaza, Screamers, Omaha's newest haunted attraction, is a big-budget bore fest.

Maybe I'm too old, I've seen too many haunted houses or I'm just not as easy to scare as I used to be, but there was nothing that freaked me out.

Things started out great with zombies patrolling the parking lot and a giant mechanized Godzilla-like demon to greet you as you purchased your tickets. Those waiting in line were even barred from seeing anything inside. I was sure it was going to be a great time, that is until I stepped inside.

It's obvious that the minds behind Screamers spared no expense with elaborate hydraulic effects, live actors who you can't distinguish from the life-sized wax figures and disorienting strobe lights. However, to paraphrase the master of suspense Alfred Hitchcock, peoples' imaginations are more effective than anything you can actually show them.

Through brightly lit exit signs every few feet, the warehouse ceiling being clearly visible from the haunted maze and effects that sometimes lacked the proper timing, I found myself catching my breath from uncontrollable laughter rather than a sense of terror.

The only thing truly scary about Screamers is the \$15 price tag for what amounts to only about 10 minutes of "entertainment."

Screamers may be the perfect destination for prop designers and makeup artists looking for inspiration, but those itching to jump out of their skin should just save their money.



photo by Patrick Doty

Screamers spares no expense to scare you out of your skin with masterfully-designed props.

Shadow's Edge

REVIEW BY
ANDREA BARBE
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The Shadow's Edge is the prime spot in town for a thrilling good time. Located on 84th and Grover streets in the Mangelson's parking lot, this haunted house is one worth checking out this Halloween season.

Even before you purchase tickets, there are disturbing creatures rummaging outside the eerie-looking "house." One creature even runs around with a chainsaw growling like an animal while another sadistically sneaks up on you, breathing deeply next to your ear in anticipation, intent on surprising you and scaring you with a rusty machete in hand.

With all of this just outside of the house, I knew I was in for a real treat.

If you go to Shadow's Edge, be prepared for lots of unexpected and intense twists and turns as well as blood curdling screams, which you won't be sure are coming from the viewers or the actors themselves.

Everything is pitch black with the exception of a few strobe lights. The interior decorator clearly had a thing for the color red. Just when you think you are in the clear, this labyrinth keeps going through more freakish scenarios.

For only \$10, you certainly get your money's worth. My only suggestion is to bring an extra pair of underoos.

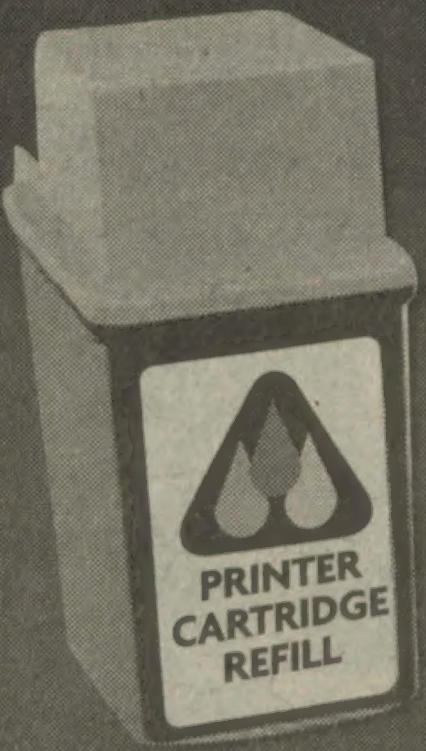


photo by Andrea Barbe

The Shadows Edge is a full-scale haunted "house" that has been consistently ranked the top haunted attraction by the local media. This year they even have a weekly "Wake the Dead" concert which happens on Saturday nights.

photo by Andrea Barbe

NEED INK?



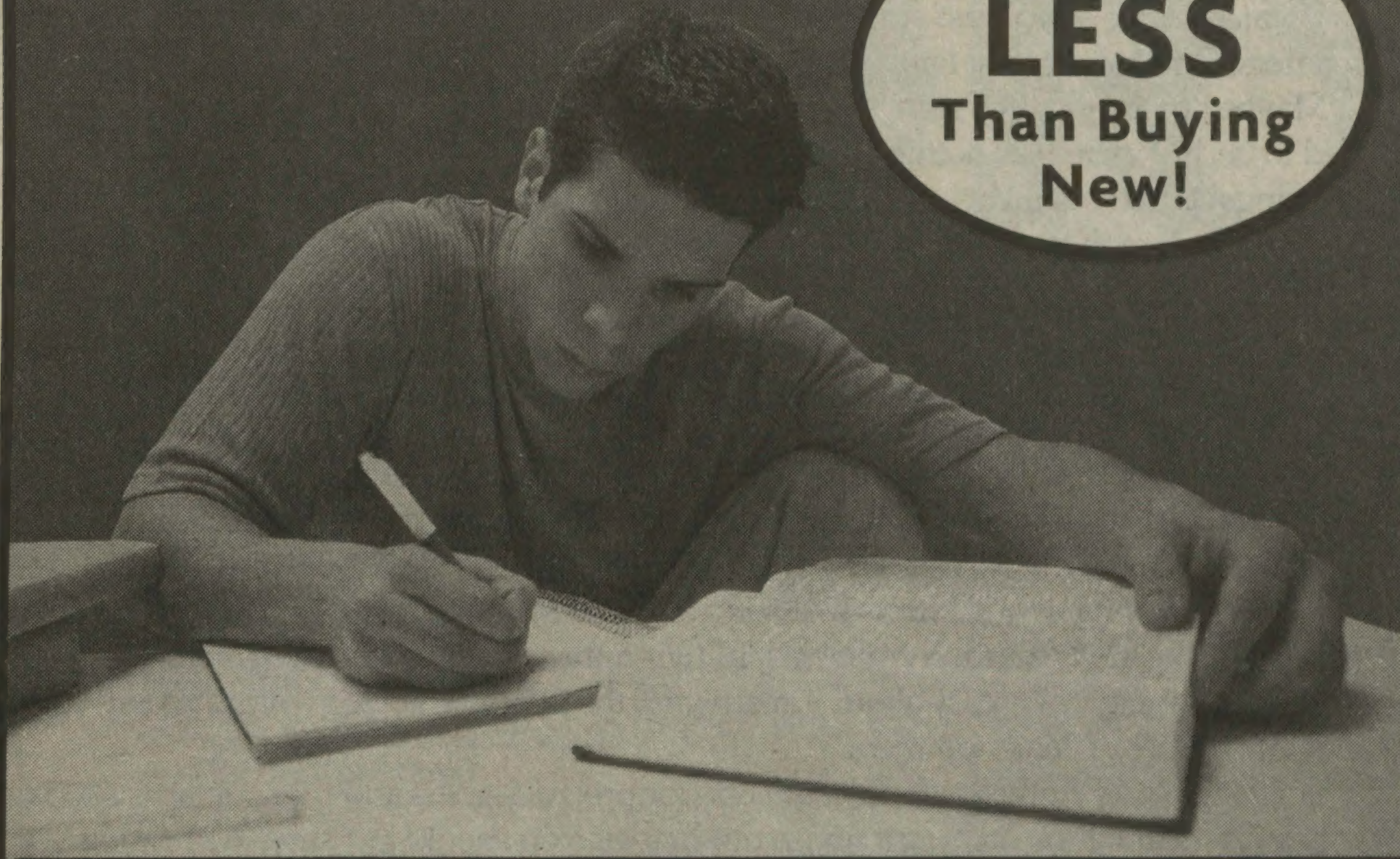
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Walgreens In-Store Photo Coupon

From *HEALTH*: Page 1

have to do every little thing that we can to bring them down."

Specifically highlighted in the chancellor's message, the university will be holding its annual Health Fair Oct. 18 from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Milo Bail Student Center. During the fair, Student Health Services will offer a comprehensive blood draw.

"The great news is the cost is \$22. In addition, a \$12 [prostate-specific antigen] test will be offered for men over age 50. The blood draw could cost \$300 if done at a physician's office," said Christensen in his message.

UNO's Wellness Stampede, in conjunction with the Wellness Council of the Midlands and the state of Nebraska, will also offer a free, confidential online health risk evaluation for all UNO employees currently enrolled in the UNO benefits plan.

"It is kind of a self test. They take it and it'll give them a printout. [It will] tell them you're fine in this area, improve this area, to reduce the chances of cardiovascular disease, add more cardio exercise," said Daniels. "We can use the data to figure out what areas we need to focus on as an institution."

And while the immediate payoff is lower health care costs for UNO, the university also understands the importance of having healthier employees.

"We care about them as individuals and people. We want them to be happy and productive," said Daniels. "We want healthy and happy employees, so if you can avoid people having sickness and illness because of lifestyle or family history, you want to get them the most help you can."

Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 News services
- 6 Periods
- 10 Informal conversation
- 14 Entertain
- 15 Barber's call
- 16 Whip
- 17 Where Tito ruled
- 19 Otherwise
- 20 Weaver's apparatus
- 21 Layer
- 23 Hard up for cash
- 27 Unsparing
- 28 Plunder
- 29 80 yards of wool
- 31 Yields
- 32 Maps within maps
- 35 Change
- 37 Afternoon affair
- 38 Blushes
- 40 Existed
- 43 Boardwalk extensions
- 44 Casual top
- 46 VCR port
- 49 Poisonous evergreen
- 51 Feed the kitty
- 52 Tight spot
- 54 Having the sharpest taste
- 57 Political refugees
- 59 Pull (for)
- 60 Arrived
- 61 Lasting just a little while
- 66 Yemeni port
- 67 Ripped up
- 68 Word before tale or ring
- 69 Hey, over here!
- 70 "Nana" star
- 71 Trap

DOWN

- 1 New Jersey cape
- 2 Ostrich relative
- 3 Made a ditch
- 4 Set apart
- 5 Fable man
- 6 Tooth covering
- 7 Auto gear: abbr.
- 8 Allies' WWII opponent
- 9 RBIs and ERAs
- 10 Beaver's family name
- 11 Stopped
- 12 Make certain
- 13 Motifs
- 18 Cut off
- 22 Alcove
- 23 Narrow fissure
- 24 Verbal subtlety
- 25 Santa __, CA
- 26 Determined
- 30 Pub quaff
- 33 More hackneyed
- 34 Observe
- 36 Explosive letters
- 39 Arid
- 40 Chablis or Chianti
- 41 BA word
- 42 Proofer's word
- 43 Strong smelling
- 45 Port-au-Prince resident
- 46 Polar region
- 47 Wanderers

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- 48 Prepares
- 50 Spahn or Harding
- 53 Takes a short break
- 55 __ for profit
- 56 Plays the links
- 58 Worn out
- 62 Prospector's find
- 63 By way of
- 64 Blunder
- 65 Change the color of

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Bemis expects great reception for annual fund-raising auction featuring wide array of artists

REBECCA WHITNEY
CONTRIBUTOR

The Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts is preparing for its 9th Annual Art Auction and Preview Exhibition on Saturday, Nov. 17, from 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Featured pieces will range from emerging local artists, previous resident artists who donated their work as well as established artists from around the region, nation and even the world.

Of the 200-plus pieces of art up for bid, some featured artists include Christo and Jeanne-Claude, John Buck, Fletcher Benton and Jun Kaneko. All of the artwork up for bid has either been donated or is on consignment.

Currently the Bemis is exhibiting the artwork during the gallery's regular business hours for community viewing. Of the artwork being



This ceramic piece called "Untitled," from Japanese artist Jun Kaneko, is one of the pieces up for auction this year.

auctioned, there are prints, photographs, ceramic pieces, sculptures, multi-media pieces and even a walk-on movie role.

"We like to spice things up and throw in random things to keep the auction upbeat," explained Annie Kwak, a UNO alumna and administrative coordinator for the Bemis Center.

When the auction is over, all the proceeds go to the center's Sustaining Fund. The fund helps the Bemis give back to the community by hosting art exhibits, promoting new and upcoming artists as well as directly supporting their international "Artist-in-Residence" program.

The factors for choosing pieces for the auction were simple because the Bemis has no exclusive style that they look for. The array of artwork includes pieces from twenty years ago all the way up to contemporary work. Kwak explained that because of the diverse audience that usually visit the auction, it was essential that the artwork is diverse as well.

"We have such a mixed crowd," she said. "We love to have a variety of contemporary artist's work in the auction."

When asked why the Bemis always has successful social events, Kwak explained that Bemis is "known for throwing great parties." As it so happens, the night of the auction will include food, drinks, music and, of course, world famous art. For a cost of \$25 per member or \$35 for non-

members, attendants will have admission into the silent auction and open bar. But as if that wasn't enough, \$50 per member, or \$60 for non-members, will include admission, open bar, reservations to the annual cocktail party on Nov. 15 and reserved VIP seating in the auction hall on Nov. 17.

For a number of art admirers, the auction itself is not the only reason they attend. "Some people will attend for certain artists," said Kwak.

While patrons have to pay for their accommodations, The Bemis Center will accommodate the artists by purchasing them hotel rooms in order to encourage them to attend. However, artist or not, many come to the auction simply because of its stature.

"It's a pretty big deal," said Kwak. "It's like the Super Bowl."



Christo and Jeanne-Claude's "Wrapped Bottle" is currently on display at the Bemis's main gallery.

BlueBarn Theater's *Seascape* is slow-paced but quick-witted examination of relationships

REVIEW BY
COLLEEN O'DOHERTY
CONTRIBUTOR

Golden sand, the sounds of waves crashing on the shore and wispy clouds against a blue sky are not usually what one expects when entering a theater. Yet, the BlueBarn Theatre provides just that, changing its theater space into a lovely beach setting for their latest offering.

Seascape, by Edward Albee, opens with an older couple lounging on a beach. They immediately break into one of the many intelligent and thoughtful conversations that make up this hour-and-a-half long show. Albee's script is sparse of characters, but the ones he has are self-aware and articulate – even the lizards.

That's right. The other couple in this four-person show is a pair of lizards that can bicker, fight, discuss and feel just as much as their human counterparts. The issues Albee covers are very relatable: miscommunications between men and women, fears of death and the need for meaning.

Albee's play explains these topics with elevated language. The characters are as much analysts of their lives as they are participants. The humor is witty and insightful, especially once the lizard couple is introduced and we are shown just how animal-like human relationships can be and vise-

versa.

Because of the script's lack of major action, scene changes and surprises made it vulnerable to being a boring yammer-fest, but that's what made the acting, directing and technical aspects so impressive.

Susan Clement-Toberer does a great job directing, pacing the show so that the audience never quite has enough time to grow bored with the constant chatter. Bill Van Deest, Marty Magnuson and Bob Donlan perform marvelous work with the set design and sound; you really get the feeling that you're at the beach. Jennifer Pool really floored me with her costume design while Carol Wisner does excellent work with the lighting.

As humanoid lizards, Nick Zadina and Erika Hall are excellent. They both manage to perfectly balance their human and animal tendencies. The actors move lithely and strongly about the stage while giving lovely and believable performances. Both show great sense for subtle comedy. When they act confused by a human concept or scared by a sudden sound, it's as real as it is adorable.

Dick Mueller and Patricia Kies also hold their own as the human half of the cast, named Charlie and Nancy. Kies is especially impressive in the amount of energy and life she brings to her part. When Nancy is excited by the prospect of beach-hopping for the rest of her days, or sad at the prospect of her newfound lizard

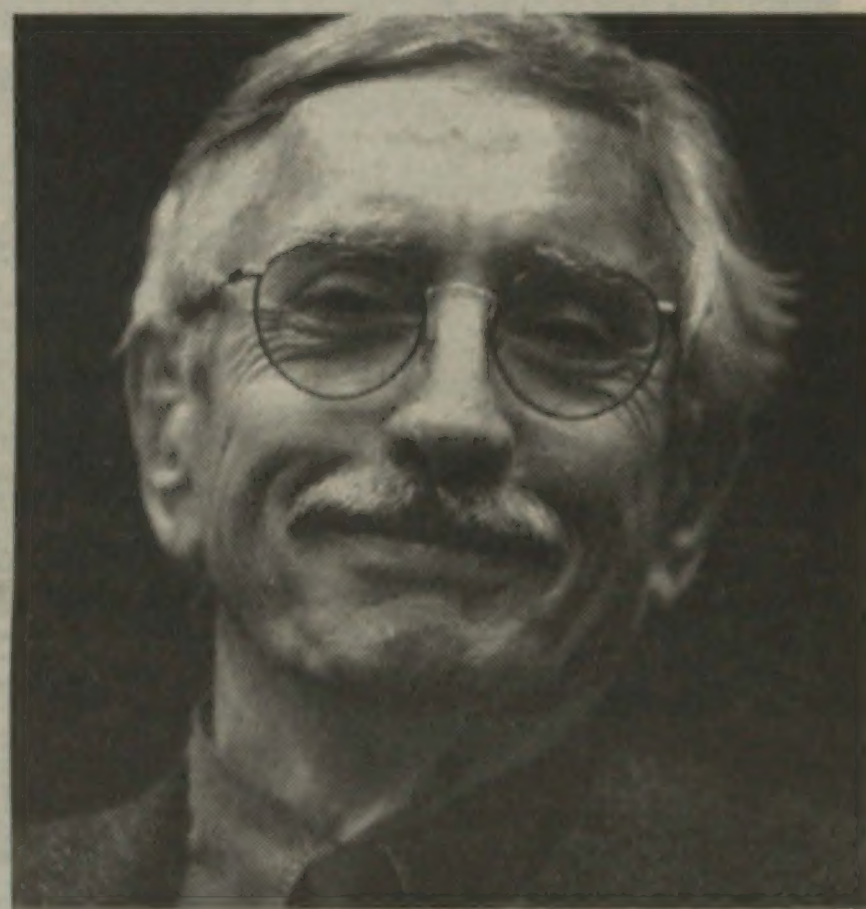
friends leaving, you're with her all the way. Meanwhile, Mueller is very funny as the exasperated husband trying to understand and please his equally exasperated wife.

Seascape is playing

Thursdays Playwrite Edward Albee won a Pulitzer Prize for *Seascape* in 1974.

Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. through Oct. 28 at the BlueBarn Theatre at 614 South 11th Street. For a special treat, patrons can stay until 11 p.m. for a presentation of BlueBarn's annual Witching Hour performance, this year entitled *Hysterical Blindness 2: Electric Boogaloo*, featuring 30 one-act sequels being performed in 60 minutes.

Tickets are \$15 for students. To buy tickets or for more information about the show, call 345-1576.



smu.edu



photo by Joan Marcus

What: Edward Albee's *Seascape*

Where: BlueBarn Theatre, 614 S. 11th St.

When: Starts at 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays through Saturdays; 6 p.m. on Sundays, from Friday through Oct. 28. No Sunday shows Oct. 7 or Oct. 21.

Tickets: Adults, \$19; students and senior citizens, \$15.

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George Grizzard and Frances Sternhagen starred as the elderly Charlie and Nancy in the 2005 Broadway adaptation of Albee's *Seascape*. The play centers around the couple, who meet a very human couple of lizards while beach hopping. As they talk with their new companions, they discover that human and animal relationships aren't really so different after all.

Definitions of ART provide catalyst for comedic, thought-provoking theater production

MARK REAGAN
CONTRIBUTOR

Some people say art is subjective and can be many things all at once. Other people say art only has certain forms and techniques, and it is an unforgivable sin to call something art that is not.

While this argument goes on and on, as far as the UNO theater department is concerned, *ART* is a play. Actually, it is a play that received critical praise when it was first written in 1994.

The author, Yasmina Reza, is prolific. She began as an actress and then moved to writing plays. Plays like *Conversations after a Burial*, *Winter Crossing* and *The Unexpected Man*, won her awards. She even translated Kafka's, *The Metamorphoses*.

With such credentials, *ART* should prove to be entertaining and thought provoking as the Department of Theatre's first main-stage production of the year, directed by Professor Cindy Melby-Phaneuf.

The play is about a group of friends: Serge, Marc and Yvan. Serge buys an expensive piece of abstract modern art which is actually just a canvas covered in white paint. He believes the canvas he bought will be a superb addition to his collection. Marc, however, furiously disagrees. The argument between Marc and Serge grows so intense it turns in to a full-blown feud.

Yvan, meanwhile, decides to try and play mediator. However, he too is inevitably drawn into the conflict.

"The play is funny," said senior Sean Carlson, who plays Yvan. "I think the failure that we see in all three of the guys comes off as very comical."

The question of whether or not the white painting bought by Serge is art is so furiously debated, it ends up being a comical and moving study on the nuances of friendship. But how will the play affect the viewer? Will they enjoy it or learn anything from it?

Local actor and musician Aaron Wilhoft saw *ART* at the Omaha Community Playhouse some time ago and explained that the play is a hidden gem.



The question "What is art?" is fiercely but comedically debated by friends who soon become enemies over the topic in Yasmina Reza's *ART*.

"It was hilarious and left me feeling great," he said. "I thought the play was superbly written."

"The show entertains in all facets," Carlson explained. "It makes you laugh. It makes my character and some people cry, and at times it makes you think. It's very well written."

If all the acclaim holds true, it seems that *ART* will prove to be funny, provocative and insightful. But one never really knows how good a play will be until they go to the show. After all, the true spirit of a play occurs under the heavy glare of stage lights, under the gaze of the audience and during the commotion of opening night; and the true quality of a performance can only be justly measured at curtain call.

ART will be performed in the Black Box Theatre in the Weber Fine Arts Building from Oct. 11 to Oct. 13 and again from Oct. 17 to Oct. 20.

Tickets are on sale now at the box office located on the first floor of WFAB. Prices are \$15 for general admission; \$12 for students and seniors. A special \$5 preview showing will be available to all patrons on the show's opening night.

For more information contact Tawanna Hollins at 554-2406.

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"Hoo-boy ... This looks like one of those art openings where you had to be early."

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Opinion

Scott Stewart | Editor in Chief

Page 11

editor@unogateway.com | October 9, 2007

Objectivity of the news ... not at UNO's Gateway

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

News credibility has come to an all time low. Watching the news, and trusting good 'ol Walter Cronkite is sadly, a thing of the past. Well, those of us working towards a news, journalism or broadcasting degree, or some who are currently working in the field, work extremely hard to cover news with objectivity and accountability. The Gateway here at UNO, has crushed any hope and confidence I was building for them. Vote for Mandy, Kennedy in upcoming election [Sept. 28], never would I thought I would read a public endorsement of a candidate from the newspaper. The role of the news media in our progressive democracy is to provide, investigate and report information to our citizenry, not tell you what to do, or how to vote. If any of the UNO student or faculty population walked by the SGO's election booth on Monday, candidates from the election were working hard, campaigning for student votes. In Mandy's camp, she used the paper as a medium for her vote. Displayed like a trophy of victory. I am disgusted of the staff at the Gateway, forget about who knows who, forget about budget dollars, forget about why they went ahead and printed the article (and yes, Scott Stewart, I know why), the quality of the Gateway has hung in the balance these past years, and any hope you had in building a solid foundation has been thrown out the door. Yes, you get 70% of your budget from advertising dollars, but I do not want my money to go to a paper that is no better than a 24 hour news network wearing politics on their sleeves. 30% of your funding comes from students, many of whom look at their tuition statements and wonder: Self, where do all those fees go? They go to a paper that wastes budget dollars and tells you how to vote. Objectivity of the news...not at the Gateway. Take my fees and brush up on your fundamentals.

Chase Moffitt
Junior, Broadcasting

Endorsement not indictment of newspaper

Staff Editorial

When you receive criticism, it is important to reflect upon it and ask whether you should change your positions, behavior or attitude based on the reasonableness of the remarks.

The Gateway staff has made a habit of this, and when we received Mr. Moffitt's letter (printed above), we exchanged e-mails and discussed its merits at two separate staff meetings.

After examining the situation, we stand by our Sept. 28 endorsement of Meg Mandy and Sheena Kennedy in last week's student election. It is not uncommon for newspapers to endorse candidates, nor is it historically unprecedented for the Gateway to do so on our own opinion pages.

If you don't believe us, try searching for terms like "endorsement" in our online archive located at library.unomaha.edu/collections/gateway. Or watch the pages of the Omaha World-Herald during the upcoming primary elections. Candidates will certainly compete to pick up the World-Herald's endorsements, and those who win them will certainly advertise that fact.

Now, there are two things that we might criticize ourselves for when it comes to the particular endorsement of Mandy and Kennedy.

First, we probably should have disclosed the fact that some members of our staff - including the author of the editorial - are friends with Cassy Loseke, the former speaker of the Student Senate. Personal friendships do carry political baggage, although our staff feels that we did nevertheless provide strong, rational

reasons why students should have elected Mandy and Kennedy.

Second, we might have chosen a less strong approach to the endorsement and the headline, which read "Vote for Mandy, Kennedy in upcoming election," trying to find a balance between praising the Seiler/Ruei ticket while saying we favored the Mandy/Kennedy ticket. Regarding this point, our staff simply felt we wanted to express ourselves honestly. We did not think that the Seiler/Ruei ticket was the best choice students could have made, and we believe that our editorial of Sept. 28 effectively communicated that position.

It should be noted that we were not telling students to vote for Mandy and Kennedy because we said so. We encouraged them to vote for that ticket based off a rational argument with the best interest of students and the university in mind.

Our staff also feels that it is important that students observe that this clear support of the Mandy/Kennedy ticket occurred prior the election with sufficient opportunity to allow our readership the opportunity to answer the editorial. Moreover, it appeared as a clearly labeled, unsigned staff editorial in our opinion section, not on the front cover or some other unreasonable location.

This editorial was clearly not news coverage, and it does not represent any sort of deviation from our policy of pursuing the utmost integrity and objectivity in our news pages. Any accusation to the contrary fails to appreciate the difference between news and opinion in journalism.

World-Herald has near miss of key point with its 'half-baked' bake sale ban story

The Omaha World-Herald ran a front-page, above-the-fold story on Saturday about UNO's recent decision to ban bake sales on campus. While I was initially delighted by the story, it was disappointing to see how close to the real issue the World-Herald came.

Had the story been placed in a broader context, readers might have more easily realized that the truly critical part of the story came at the very end, when student government Vice President Mike White was quoted.

"The university 'did not allow any student voice whatsoever,' White said," the World-Herald article stated.

The reason for the lack of student input, the Gateway reported last week, was that "a discussion of alternatives was not going to result in a different direction, bottom line," according to Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Wade Robinson. Translation: We don't care what student's think about the ban; we're going to do it anyway.

This attitude towards students coming from UNO's administration is distressing for a few reasons.

First and foremost, this attitude represents the prevalence of old views towards openness and democratic involvement when policy making is concerned.

Last year, former chancellor

Nancy Belck was forced to step down after a controversy surrounding her handling of a major budget deficit in the Maverick athletic department. Had she been more forthcoming with

the problems, the public relations nightmare suffered by the university probably could have been prevented completely. At the very least, boosters and other supporters of the program could have helped find a solution to the problem before unfortunate staff cuts were necessary.

Unilaterally declaring a ban on bake sales on a campus, while not in the same class of behavior as those resulting in Belck's resignation, is certainly an example of this same broken logic.

Being open about decisions and the honest reasons behind proposed policy changes helps to build coalitions, find improved solutions to problems as well as promote trust and understanding. Announcing major decisions through piecemeal e-mails revoking privileges from respected student organizations at the last minute serves only the opposite.

Another reason why this attitude is distressing lies with UNO's commitment to putting students first and making the campus student-centered.

How can we really claim that we want students to Be a May if we

See **STEWART**: Page 12

Sinister Slant



Scott Stewart

THE Gateway

Editorial & Letter Policy

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the University of Nebraska at Omaha or the University of Nebraska Board of Regents.

Opinions in columns and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Gateway staff or the publications committee.

Letters to the editor will be selected for publication on the basis of timeliness,

clarity and available space. The editor reserves the right to edit all letters for publication.

Letters must be signed using the writer's first and last names. Letters must include the writer's address and phone number for verification purposes only. Letters to the editor exceeding two typed pages will not be considered for publication.

Editorial Board

Opinions expressed in staff editorials reflect the consensus of a supermajority vote of the members of the Gateway editorial board.

Membership on the editorial board is limited to

- Michelle Bishop
- Pamela Bouterse
- Patrick Doty
- Cassy Loseke
- Taylor Muller
- Charley Reed

Gateway editorial staff, regular columnists and editorial cartoonists as well as senior staff and regular staff writers and photographers.

Members of the editorial board are listed below.

- Ashlee Schuette
- Jason Sibson
- Scott Stewart
- Matthew Volkman
- Bill Wendt

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From **STEWART**: Page 12

photo by Bill Wendt

Members of the Gateway staff gather on Sunday night to enjoy pie and discuss their plans for this issue's editorials as well as next issue's news and sports coverage.

don't allow them some say in how a Mav is defined? Without democratic involvement in student affairs, we may as well be attending a glorified public high school.

Moreover, how can students be energized about participating on campus and helping to foster the vision embodied by the university's master plan if they are not provided a voice in their own affairs?

In his recent book *The Assault*

on Reason, Al Gore addresses the need for an improved public form in America. He writes:

"If the rule of reason is the standard by which every use of official power is evaluated, then even the most complex schemes to violate the public's trust can be uncovered and policed by a well-informed citizenry. Moreover, when ideas rise or fall according to merit, reason tends to drive us towards decisions that reflect the best available wisdom of the group as a whole."

While addressing problems for America as a whole, this passage also applies right here, right now to UNO's campus.

More openness about decisions and more involvement of others in decision-making processes would serve to strengthen our

university. It would prevent major mistakes from being made, it would ease students' concerns and it would improve the quality of decisions.

On the other hand, the continuation of close-minded, closed-door, closed-reasoned decisions is only setting up our campus for the next big scandal. Sooner or later, something disgraceful will happen like last year's athletic scandal, and we won't know until it's too late.

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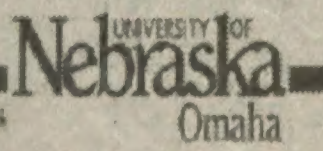
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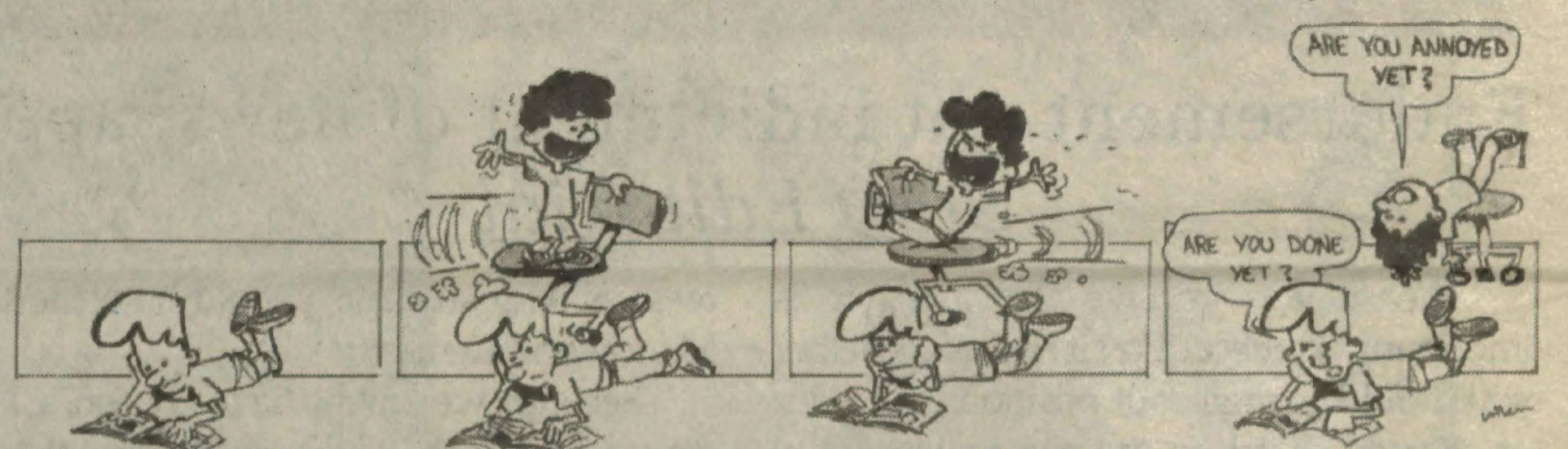


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